

2007 Farm Bill Research Title:

Investing in Research to Advance Agriculture

- **Streamlines agricultural research by establishing a National Agriculture Research Program Office (National Program Office).**
 - The office will coordinate the programs and activities of USDA's research agencies in an effort to minimize duplication and maximize coordination at all levels.
 - Creates 6 Program Offices within the National Program Office. Each Program Office will have a Director to help formulate programs, develop planning and priorities for agriculture research, and help coordinate and track research activities related to agriculture research.
Six Program Offices:
 - Renewable Energy, Natural Resources & Environment
 - Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health
 - Plant Health and Production Protection
 - Animal Health and Production Protection
 - Agriculture Systems and Technology
 - Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities
- **Establishes an Office to administer competitive grants.**
 - Promotes the importance of competitive grant programs.
 - Reinforces the significance of funding such programs.
- **Requires the President to submit to Congress a single line item reflecting the total amount requested for agriculture research programs.**
 - Currently, funding is spread among various agencies, making it difficult to track the total amount of federal investment in agriculture research activities.
- **Preserves Authority for Core Formula Programs for State Level Research and Extension.**
 - Continues programs established under the Hatch Act of 1887 and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914.
- **Encourages prioritization of additional funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (the 1890 institutions), Native American Colleges and Universities (the 1994 institutions), and small land grant universities.**
- **Expands access to funding, authority and eligibility for research and extension dollars for Hispanic Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities.**
 - Creates an endowment fund, institutional capacity building program to promote agriculture and sciences, and competitive grant proposal for Hispanic Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities
 - Expands extension capabilities for Hispanic Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities
 - Amends existing authorities to ensure that Hispanic Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities are eligible for such programs as the International Ag Research and Extension Program
- **Creates high priority research initiatives for research related to specialty crop and organic production.**
 - Dedicates \$25 million for organic research priorities
 - Provides \$215 million for Specialty Crop Research Initiative and \$25 million for fresh produce safety grants
- **Creates high priority research initiatives for research related to bioenergy and biobased products.**

Farm Bill Research Facts:

- Agriculture research can lead to outcomes that boost farm productivity, prevent and address plant and animal disease, discover new technologies that expand the use of agricultural products, and benefit consumers as well as agricultural producers.
- Most research at USDA falls under one of four Agencies:
 - Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the in-house scientific research agency.
 - The Economic Research Service (ERS) analyzes statistical indicators in all areas of agriculture to support public and private decision-making.
 - The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) collects and analyzes a broad range of data and administers the U.S. Census of Agriculture.
 - The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) channels money to states and U.S. territories to support higher education agriculture programs, state and regional research, and continuing agricultural education and public outreach.